FROM THE FIELD.

Beaver City, Neb.

The Somerset church in Beaver Valley, Neb., is moving along harmoniously and gradually increasing in number, strength and influence.

Sunday evening, Nov. 18th, we enjoyed a very pleasant communion together. No members were present from abroad, and as usual we were left alone to do all the ministerial service. But where brethren and sisters meet together in love there will be a season of spiritual enjoyment. Sister Norris, a lady from Beaver City was baptized on the 22nd. All well as usual. God bless the cause everywhere.

C. FORNEY.

Dec. 2, 1888.

Breaking Bread.

Many believe that when the apostles came together on the first day of the week to break bread they took the communion. This no living man can prove. We find by reading the Bible that the breaking of bread was a very common occurrence.

After Paul's shipwreck on his way to Rome, after fasting 14 days he took bread, gave thanks and brake, etc. See Acts 28: 35. Christ broke bread to the multitude. Was also made known to his disciples after his resurrection by breaking bread. Luke 24: 34. But says one, "why did the disciples come together on the first day of the week to break bread?" A definite answer to this question cannot be given from the Gospel. I will give what I believe to be a correct answer to this subject. I believe they practiced it.

1st. Because they had a miraculous example from Christ. He opened their understanding by the breaking of bread on the first day of the week. "He was known of them in the breaking of bread." Luke 24: 35. I say miraculous example because simply breaking bread would not have opened their eyes, and cause them to know him. but it was an miraculous power that opened them.

2nd. They did it also to commemorate the resurrection of Christ. Their knowledge of his resurrection so filled their hearts with joy that they never would forget the means that he used in making himself known to them. And in order to keep it fresh before their minds they went from house to house to break bread. Acts 2: 45.

Eusebius in his ecclesiastical history who wrote during the early part of the fourth century, speaks of the early Christians "celebrating the mistery of the resurrection" which I believe has reference to the same practice. Hence the disciples not only kept the first day of the week in commemoration of Christ's resurrection but also came together to break bread and rejoice upon the day. As it is not commanded and as the reasons are not given no Christian man can enforce it upon those that don't wish to observe it neither can he oppose any if they wish to observe it.

I. D. BOWMAN.

Homer, Ohio.

Nov. 30.—The Homer church met to transact business, concerning the church, Brother Jacobs, the pastor, opened the meeting by reading a chapter and prayer. Then Bro. Shannon Hart was called to the chair. The meeting was held in love and harmony, and as a church decided to hold a protracted meeting this winter. Our beloved pastor will continue to preach every two weeks for us, and every four weeks on the Smith road, about thirteen miles away. He is a faithful worker in the Lord's cause.

M. K.

Zimmerman, Ohio.

Dear EVANGELIST.—Thou art ever dear to me. Thou art an EVANGELIST which does one good when he reads the contents written upon its pages.

I will give a short description of our church dedication. The morning dawned with snow and then turned to rain, and rained all day. The house was not quite as full as it would have been, had the weather been fair. Our communion meeting passed off very nicely. Brethren Brown and Ridenour were present, also Bro. Hull from Bear Creek and Bro. Daniel Eversole and son were present from Dayton. The house was filled to its utmost. Some was obliged to stand up, and still there was a right good crowd out side, who could not get in. On the 25th, we were made to rejoice when one more soldier enlisted in the Master's cause. This was the third in the new church. Bro. J. M. Miller preached. This makes ten members within a year. Surely this is encouraging. The Lord works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform.

C. F. Miller.

Nov. 26, 1888.

West Independence, Ohio.

Nov. 30th.—Have just returned from a trip North, where I was called by Bro. J. H. Swihart to hold a meeting in the "Hickory Grove church. On my way there I stopped at Sherwood, and preached one sermon in the German Reform church. Here I met and formed the acquaintance of Brother and sister Shoe, of that place, who treated me very kindly.

From Sherwood I went to Bryan, the county seat of Williams Co., and preached one sermon in the new Disciple church of this place. Here Bro. "Sam" and Geo. Keiser lives. They are the leading dentists in the city, and are doing a very good business. I speak from experience.

From Bryan I went to Hickory Grove, but when I got there the German Baptists were using the church, so Bro. Rittenhouse took me to Mt. Pleasant, where I preached a few evenings and visited among the brethren there. And then Bro. Abner Brown and I went to Prattsville, Mich., where I preached Saturday evening, Sunday morning and evening. Audiences fair and interest good.

From Prattsville we returned to Hickory Grove, where I preached one discourse and stayed over night with Bro. Rittenhouse. The next day Bro. Brown took me to Bryan, where I spent another day and night with the Keiser Bros. From there I returned to Sherwood and spent a night with Bro. Shoe, and from there I returned to West Independence.

I spent two weeks on this trip and preached in all twelve sermons. I did not get to hold a series of meetings, but I visited all the churches on this work and had a good time. I will probably hold a meeting in Bro. Brown's neighborhood in the near future.

Bro. Brown has done more than his share for the churches in Williams Co. He has also given quite liberally to the College. One of his sons is now attending Ashland College.

The brethren in Williams Co. are very much scattered and need encouragement, but with proper efforts we believe they will yet succeed.

Our headquarters are still at West Independence, O., where I preach occasionally for Bro. Shively, who is pastor of this church, but at present he is engaged in teaching school. The brethren here are in full union and fellowship and are earnestly contending for the faith.

A. M. RIDENOUR.

Campbell, Mich.

Bro. I. Kilhefner came to us the 17th inst, and is holding a protracted meeting in Woodland, Barry Co., preaching to large and attentive congregations. He preaches good solid Bible doctrine. A good interest is manifested in his meetings. Woodland is a new field for the Brethren, and I hope much good will be the result of Bro. K's ardent labor there.

We have preaching nearly every Sunday and sometimes in the week with good attendance and attention. We have prayer-meeting every Thursday evening, and what good meetings they are! All take part in the services, from the least to the greatest (if there are any least or greatest). This makes our meetings so pleasant.

We made no gains by way of accessions lately. We have one applicant, but on account of opposition she can not come. Pray for her.

Yesterday was the day appointed for Thanksgiving. We met in the old German Baptist church at 10: 30, a goodly number of brethren, sisters and friends convened and we had a glorious meeting.

On last Wednesday evening we had prayer-meeting at our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace's house. By earnest requests we had three meetings there. One of Mr. W's sons is sorely afflicted with consumption and we think he can not remain here very long. He seems to be fully resigned to the will of God.

Last Thursday night many brethren, sisters and dear friends met at the writer's home for prayer services. Thanks, brethren, come again. We had a good meeting with Bro. Geo. Clum as class leader. Prayer meetings are a means of grace that we could not well dispense with and live a happy Christian life. They are the means of binding us together in love and union, and create sociability in any neighborhood if properly conducted. I am glad, dear reader, that I can say of this neighborhood, that, where a few years ago many of the young people would frequent the skating rink, dancing hall, ball room and other places where Christians do not go, do now frequent prayer meeting, singing school, Sabbath School and other places where Christians meet for divine worship. This is as it should be.

The Campbell brethren will hold a protracted meeting soon in the old German church; Bro. Isaac Kilhefner is expected to be here.

J. G. WINEY.

Dec. 1st.

How we Spent Thanksgiving.

The brethren and sisters of the LaPaz, Linkville and Buffalo congregations met at the residence of their pastor at Linkville with baskets well filled, and after a splendid repast all went to the church and spent the afternoon in prayer and social meeting. It was a source of much strength and happiness to all, and especially to the minister and his wife who were rejoiced to know that they were so kindly remembered by their congregations. Dear friends, let us continue those acts of kindness and love for one another and cherish each other in our Christian cause, and ever thinking of that glorious supper to come, when we shall surround the table with Him who redeemed us, and sup anew with him in our Father's kingdom.

LIZZIE MASSENA.

Linkville, Ind.

Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving day was one of the pleasantest times of the year. The first thing on the program was services at the church at 11 A. M., which was well attended. All present seemed to be happy and enjoy the occasion with unusual interest. About the sermon we have nothing to say as it was one of our own get up and after our usual style.

After the service our esteemed friend, B. F. Maple and family from Beaver City, accompanied us home, making us promise we would not invite any one else as there were always so many when he came with us.

On Thanksgiving day after the service we passed the afternoon very pleasantly until about four o'clock, when suddenly we were called out to see a friend, whom to our surprise we found to be composed of about thirty of our brethren, sisters, and friends, who had come to do us good. We are fond of company but just how to entertain so many at once was not clear to us. It is a little embarrassing anyway to have so many come at once, especially when you least expect them. Soon, however, we gathered courage and invited all in but for good reasons did not ask them to take seats. Well the result was, our table was soon loaded with such things as we needed for which we tried to thank them as best we could. Thank God for good people to live among when in want. Especially do we feel thankful to our esteemed friend and neighbor, Mr. John Winter. To one and all, we say, come again. God bless you for your kindness.

C. FORNEY.
SABINA M. FORNEY.

Beaver City, Neb., Dec. 2, '88.

Read the premiums that we are offering to canvassers. See which one will suit you. More additions to the list will be made next week.

The Brethren Annual for 1889.

The Brethren Annual for 1889 is now ready. It is principally a church document, and you will want to preserve it as such. Price 10 cents.

OUR CHURCH.

This has been a week of unusual quietness.

All orders for the Annual will be filled this week.

Bro. I. D. Bowman expects to attend College after the Holidays.

Arrangements have been made to receive a deed for the College next week.

Christmas exercises will be held in some of the churches on Lord's Day, the 23rd.

Saturday evening the 12th, Bro. J. H. Palmer commenced a protracted meeting at Linkville, Ind.

Bro. J. H. Swihart is at home this week. He is now about ready to enter upon his labors as Indiana State evangelist.

Bro. J. B. Lair has changed his address from Kansas City, Mo., to Olathe, Kansas, where he expects to remain permanently.

Now is the time to send in your subscription for 1889. A little work on the part of agents will be a great aid to the paper now.

On Dec. 3rd, eight had come out at Bro. I. Kilhefner's meeting at Woodland, Mich. The Lord be praised for saving the souls of the lost.

Bro. J. Allen Miller, of Glenford, Ohio, expects soon to hold a revival meeting at a new point in Logan county. We bespeak for him abundant success.

Bro. Daniel Shook writes us that at Downs, Kan., corn was a failure this year. It is very unfortunate for people in a new country to meet such reverses.

Bro. A. A. Cober is arranging to conduct a series of meetings at Milford, Ind., during the holidays. His attendance at the Seminary in Chicago does not give him many opportunities for protracted work.

The P. O. address of our brother S. P. Stevens, is now Beatrice, Neb., Lock Box 100, instead of Monroeville, Ind. He expects to remain for one year, to work for the cause of Christ and the Brethren church, They expect to build a new church the coming year in the city of Beatrice.

Bro. A. J. Sterling writes us as follows: "I have retired from all business of a secular nature, and am now ready to entertain calls for church work. My address will be Masontown, Fayette Co., Pa. My services can be secured for a pastorate in a city or a fair and prosperous country town, or I will be willing to hold a few protracted exercises."—A. J. Sterling.

Olathe, Kas.—I am here exploring. Will have a meeting or two before I leave. Prospects for a Brethren organization here seem favorable. Is our Mission Board doing anything? For heaven's sake, brethren, rouse up and don't permit precious opportunities to go by the Board. Help us or some one else a little, and we will give you several more congregations this winter in our district.—W. J. H. Bauman.

How true it is, as the United Presbyterian states, that "if we cultivate a spirit of selfishness selfishness will rule us. No master is more exacting, nor is any one more sure to assume the place permitted or given him. It may be added, also, that no one is more difficult to break away from." But that is not the whole, nor the bitterest part, of the truth respecting selfishness. Not only is selfishness an exacting ruler, and one very hard to break away from; but under no ruler is one so sure to become so utterly miserable. The selfish man enjoys nothing in the end, and is ever in misery because others enjoy anything. Selfishness leads to the sunless, cold, flowerless life of the hermit, with none of his joys.